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8/21/03

IN THE US PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

July 21, 2003

Applicants: Armin Diez

Title : AT LEAST SUBSTANTIALLY METALLIC
CYLINDER HEAD GASKET

Serial No.: 10/052 468

Filed : January 23, 2002

Examiner: Kyle

Confirmation No. 6440

Group: 3676

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Arlington, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

JUL 29 2003

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above application as follows:

GROUP 3600

IN THE CLAIMS

AT
1. (Currently Amended) Cylinder head gasket with an at least substantially metallic gasket plate comprising at least one sheet metal layer and having at least one combustion chamber opening surrounded by at least one bead formed in a sheet metal layer of said gasket plate and being elastically deformable in height, wherein for delimiting such deformation of said bead at least one of said sheet metal layers is provided with at least one delimiting device close to said bead, said delimiting device having a height enabling said bead to be elastically deformed in height and preventing complete flattening of said bead, and said delimiting device having at least one deformation in said sheet metal layer such that

(a) in sections through said at least one sheet metal layer along circular surfaces coaxial with said combustion chamber opening, said delimiting device respectively comprises a row of discrete elevations following one another in a circumferential direction of the combustion chamber opening, and, located directly opposite each of said elevations, a discrete depression corresponding in shape to the shape of the elevation associated therewith, said elevations being joined to one another by the sheet metal of said at least one sheet metal layer;

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